

lon—and heat until quite hot, but not scorching, and rub it well into the fur with a clean cloth. Repeat several times, and all stains will disappear. It is better than flour, as the sand leaves nothing for musty or bad odors.

Household Helps

For information about butter, butterine and oleomargarine, write to secretary of agriculture, Washington, D. C., for Farmers' Bulletin No. 131. It is free.

For dissolving carbolic acid crystals for insecticide and disinfectant, use boiling water. For household uses, the crystals will answer, but for medicinal uses, the finer preparations should be used.

Be sure to get the first cockroach that comes, and watch diligently for his followers; otherwise, a colony of them will soon establish themselves, and your labors be greatly increased.

Old stains may be removed from leather by applying powdered pipe clay mixed with water to a paste; apply and allow the paste to remain on the leather for several hours. Repeat if necessary.

Mud stains on garments should be allowed to get thoroughly dry before attempting to remove them. When perfectly dry hang in the sun for a few hours, then brush out carefully. If stains appear, try rubbing the spots with a flannel dipped

in alcohol. Brush well before trying anything else.

A fine liquid blacking is made as follows: One pound of ivory black finely powdered; three-fourths pint of molasses; four tablespoonfuls of olive oil, one pint of vinegar and one pint of stale beer. Rub the first three ingredients together until the oil is perfectly "killed," then add the beer and vinegar.

A "self-colored" paper for the walls is one where two or more shades of the same color is used. For a north room, a wall paper of colonial yellow with a cream colored ceiling paper is very brightening. Bed spread and cushion covers of cretonne of a soft cream back ground and floral designs over it is very suitable.

To remove rust from steel and nickel-plate, cover the metal with sweet oil well rubbed into the rust stain, leave two days, and rub well, then smear freely with oil; rub into this a fine powder of unslacked lime (sifted through muslin), and polish with a soft cloth.

Query Box

R. J.—The time for layering branches of the hardwood plants is in the spring when the plant is making a good growth. Some plants do better if the branches are layered before growth commences.

Tillie.—Make your pansy bed on the north side of a board fence or building; spade and enrich the ground with well-rotted manure. If you do not raise your own plants, get a dozen plants from the florist and set one to two feet apart. Keep the ground moist, but do not wet, and occasionally water with quite weak manure water.

Emma S.—A silk-finished pongee which wears well will cost about twenty-five cents a yard. Many kinds of silk-finished, mercerized cottons wear and wash well for house dresses. For the kitchen and rough work, nothing is better than calico or gingham.

Esmerelda B.—A very good and cheap filling for porch pillows is made of rags from the ragbag—of course, clean. Tear into strips half to one inch wide, then snip into half inch or inch lengths, according to the softness of the cloth. They make a very comfortable pillow, but must be filled full enough so as not to "jump up."

J. L.—Begin your rose jar with the first fragrant leaves, and be careful to choose the roses having the finest perfume. Scentless petals are worthless. For "nerve" pillows, fill with hops, dried catnip or mint leaves, clover tops, sweet grasses, scented foliage gathered from herbs and shrubs. Have them well dried in the shade, and all stems or sticks removed before using.

Mrs. L. C.—When handling soap-lve or potash, wear gloves of some old cloth, as the dust will make holes in your skin or clothes. The fine dust if stirred up, will hurt the eyes, and the tiniest speck will burn the hands or face. Cold water must be used with the lye, as it becomes very hot in dissolving, and must be allowed to cool to hand heat before putting in the grease; but don't measure the heat with your hand.

Papering the Board Walls

Several letters have come to us asking how to paper the celled room, or board walls so that the paper will not become ragged as soon as the job is finished. In the first place, cover the ceiling boards with a good flour paste, made as for the laundry, smooth and not too thin. Rye flour is more apt to make a "sticky" paste than the flour usually found in the kitchen, and to three gallons of paste two ounces of glue, dissolved and two ounces of alum dissolved in a little boiling water should be added.

If there is any fear of bugs add also two tablespoonfuls of carbolic acid crystals dissolved in a little boiling water. Stir well until thoroughly mixed. While the paste is still fresh on the boards cover with building paper smoothly pressed on, and cover with a cheap, lime-filled muslin. Cut the muslin strips as long as the wall is high, and seam the strips together on the machine, keeping the edges well stretched, to prevent puckering. Or each strip may be tacked on separately, taking the edges together. Tack the bottom edge of the strips close down to the top of the surbase so that when turned over to carry to the top of the wall the tacks will be hidden. Then stretch tightly as it can be done and tack the top close up to the ceiling. Drive a few tacks along the edges of the strips sewn together to keep the cloth from bagging. Then, paste and apply your wall paper just as you would to plastered walls. The ceiling may be covered in the same way, or it may be painted, or calomined. The paper will not crack along the joinings of the boards, and the cloth will remain good for years, to be papered over again and again.

If bugs are already established in such walls, before you put on the paper, have plenty of carbolic acid, or boiling hot solution of alum or salt, and mop the walls thoroughly, letting the fluid get into the cracks plentifully, then go ahead with the papering. If any suggestion of bugs show on the walls or ceilings, fill a long spouted can with the insecticide and squirt it into the holes, or behind the paper, then paste a bit

of paper over the hole when it gets dry.

Always baste long seams where one or both seams are bias before attempting to sew them up. A basting stitch saves a great many fullings up of materials and puckering of seams, which no amount of pressing will ever do away with.

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FROM THE NORTH COUNTRY

Where the Winters are Cold and the Snows Deep.

Writing from the vicinity David Harum made famous, a man says that he was an habitual coffee drinker, and, although he knew it was doing him harm, was too obstinate to give it up, till all at once he went to pieces with nervousness and insomnia, loss of appetite, weakness, and a generally used-up feeling, which practically unfitted him for his arduous occupation, and kept him on a couch at home when his duty did not call him out.

"While in this condition Grape-Nuts food was suggested to me and I began to use it. Although it was in the middle of winter and the thermometer was often below zero, almost my entire living for about six weeks of severe exposure was on Grape-Nuts food with a little bread and butter and a cup of hot water, till I was wise enough to make Postum my table beverage.

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"The constant marvel to me was how a person could do the amount of work and endure the fatigue and hardship as I did, on so small an amount of food. But I found my new rations so perfectly satisfactory that I have continued them—using both Postum and Grape-Nuts at every meal, and often they comprise my entire meal.

"All my nervousness, irritability and insomnia have disappeared and healthy, natural sleep has come back to me. But what has been perhaps the greatest surprise to me is the fact that with the benefit of my general health has come a remarkable improvement in my eye-sight.

"If a good appetite, good digestion, good eye-sight, strong nerves and an active brain are to be desired, I can say from my own experience, use Grape-Nuts and Postum." Name given by Postum Co., Battle Creek, Mich.

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